

Mr. Sellman delivers an unfavourable report on the petition of Lucretia Marshall; which was twice read and concurred with.

Mr. J. Brown presented a petition from John Campbell, of Queen-Anne's county, praying a special act of insolvency; Mr. Groome presented a petition from John Creswell, of Cecil county, praying that the collector of the tax may be authorized to collect officers fees; Mr. Bowles presented a petition from Thomas Kennedy, of Washington county, praying a special act of insolvency; and Mr. Bland presented a memorial from the president and directors of the Union Bank of Maryland, praying an alteration in their charter; which were read and referred.

Mr. Harris delivers a bill, entitled, An act to alter and change the place of holding the elections in the first election district in Kent county; which was twice read, passed, and sent to the senate.

The clerk of the senate delivers the bill to authorize and empower the levy court of Anne-Arundel county to assess and levy a sum of money for the support and maintenance of Elitha Porter and Achah Porter, the bill to incorporate the Baltimore Carpenters Humane Society, and the bill to appoint commissioners to review the road therein mentioned in Harford county, severally endorsed, "will pass." Ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Baer delivers a bill, entitled, An act to authorize the drawing of a lottery in Frederick-town for the purpose of paving Market-street in said town; and Mr. Harryman delivers a bill, entitled, A supplement to an act, entitled, An act to lay out a certain road in Baltimore county; which were read.

Mr. Worthington delivers the bill authorizing doctor James Cocke to remove certain negroes into the state of Maryland, as amended; which was twice read, passed, and sent to the senate.

Mr. J. Thomas delivers an unfavourable report on the petition of William Bravner; which was twice read and concurred with.

The bill to appoint trustees for Nathan Griffith, was read the second time, and the question put, Shall the said bill pass? Resolved in the affirmative, and the bill sent to the senate.

The bill for the relief of the German or high Dutch reformed Christian church in Frederick-town, and the bill to confirm the title in Richard Flintham to a part of a tract of land lying in Cecil county, were read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

Mr. Sellman presented a petition from William Murray, of Anne-Arundel county, praying a special act of insolvency; which was read and referred.

On motion of Mr. J. Brown, Ordered, That the supplement to the act, entitled, An act for the recovery of small debts out of court, and to repeal the acts of assembly therein mentioned, have a second reading on Friday next.

Mr. Palmer presented a petition from Kitty E. Emory, of Queen-Anne's county, praying a divorce; and Mr. Kerr presented a petition from Joseph Dawson, an old soldier; which were read and referred.

The house resumed the consideration of the resolutions disapproving of the resolutions of November, session 1808, relative to the embargo, and after considerable debate thereon the question was put, That the house adjourn? Resolved in the affirmative, yeas 48, nays 23.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1809.

THE house met. Present as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

Mr. Randall presented a petition from John Sower, of Baltimore county, praying to be supported out of the poor-house; which was read and referred.

The bill for the sale of part of the real estate of Conrad Eissen, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

Mr. Worthington delivers petitions from Margaret Price, and Jacob Sitler, junior, and Rebecca his wife, of the city of Baltimore, praying to be divorced, and also a petition from Thomas Gannan, of the city of Baltimore, praying to be released from confinement; Mr. Schley presented a petition from fundry inhabitants of Middle-town, praying for a lottery to build a market-house in said town; Mr. Hebb presented a petition from Cornelius Manning, of St. Mary's county, praying for a patent for land purchased by his father; Mr. Gaither presented a petition from fundry inhabitants of Hyatt's-town, Montgomery county, praying that said town may be marked and bounded; and Mr. Baer presented a petition from Barbara Hamersla, of Frederick county, praying a divorce; which were severally read and referred.

The bill annulling the marriage of Susanna Beamer, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

On motion of Mr. Bowles, Ordered, That this house will, on Wednesday next, proceed to the appointment of a director to the Bank of Baltimore on behalf of this state for the ensuing year.

The clerk of the senate delivers the bill to alter and change the place of holding elections in the first election district in Kent county, and the bill authorizing doctor James

Cocke to remove certain negroes into the state of Maryland, severally endorsed, "will pass." Ordered to be engrossed. And the resolutions relative to weights and measures, endorsed, "assented to."

Mr. Bland presented a petition from Henry Brown, of the city of Baltimore, praying a special act of insolvency; which was read and referred.

Mr. Randall delivers a bill, entitled, An act for the improvement of a road in Baltimore county; and Mr. Forwood delivers a bill, entitled, An act to lay out and straighten a certain road in Harford county; which were read.

Mr. Groome presented a petition from Alexander Kirk, of Cecil county, praying that the bridges and road over his milldam may be kept in repair at the expense of the county; Mr. Chapman presented a petition from Charles Sewell and James R. Green, of Charles county, praying the treasurer may be directed to cancel the bond of Charles Mankin, on payment of the principal due thereon; and Mr. Kerr presented a petition from Robert Moore, of Talbot county, praying that his title to certain property may be confirmed; which were read and referred.

Mr. Randall delivers a bill, entitled, An act for the support of John Sowers, of Baltimore county; Mr. Street delivers a bill, entitled, An act to straighten and lay out a road in Baltimore and Harford counties therein mentioned; Mr. Bowles delivers a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of Thomas Kennedy, an insolvent debtor; and Mr. Archer delivers a bill, entitled, An act giving validity to the will of Patrick Smith; which were severally read.

Mr. John Parnham, a delegate for Charles county, appeared, qualified, and took his seat.

The house resumed the consideration of the resolutions disapproving of the resolutions of November session, 1808, relative to the embargo, and after sometime spent in debating the same

Adjourned till Monday morning.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1809.

THE house met. Present as on Saturday. The proceedings of Saturday were read.

The bill for the support of John Sowers, was sent to the senate.

Mr. Bland delivers a petition from fundry inhabitants of the city of Baltimore, praying that insurance on lottery tickets may be prohibited; Mr. S. Thomas delivers a petition from fundry inhabitants of Maryland, praying for a turnpike road from near Ellicott's mills to the territory of Columbia; Mr. Physick delivers a petition from fundry inhabitants of Cecil county, praying that bank stock may be taxed; Mr. Worthington delivers a petition from Henry Alexander, of the city of Baltimore, praying a special act of insolvency; Mr. Physick delivers a petition from fundry inhabitants of Cecil county, praying for a road from the Rising Sun to Charles-town; Mr. Worthington delivers a petition from fundry inhabitants of the western precincts of the city of Baltimore, praying for a lottery for the purpose of erecting a town-clock; Mr. Worthington delivers a petition from Mary Quinlan of the city of Baltimore, praying a divorce; Mr. Randall delivers a petition from fundry inhabitants of Baltimore county, counter to the petition praying that the criminals may be employed on the Philadelphia road; and Mr. Archer delivers a petition from Samuel Gover, and others, praying that a suit may be reinstated in the court of appeals; which were severally read, and referred.

Mr. Stevens delivers a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of James Doores, of Talbot county; which was twice read, passed, and sent to the senate.

The bill for the relief of Garret E. Pendergast, was read the second time, and the question put, Shall the said bill pass? Determined in the negative, and sent to the senate.

Mr. Harryman delivers a petition from fundry inhabitants of the western precincts of Baltimore, praying that commissioners may be appointed to grade and level the streets, &c. and to fix and establish the corners thereof; which was read and referred.

The bill to improve a road in Baltimore county, was read the second time, and the question put, Shall the said bill pass? Determined in the negative.

Mr. Seth delivers a petition from the constables of Talbot county, praying a further allowance, as bailiffs; which was read and referred.

On motion of Mr. C. Dorsey, Leave given to bring a bill to repeal all such laws as require the payment to the state of twenty-five shillings for a license to marry.

Mr. Driver has leave of absence.

The house resumed the consideration of the resolutions disapproving of the resolutions of November session, 1808, relative to the embargo, and after sometime spent in debating thereon,

Adjourned till 3 o'clock P. M.

THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

The house met, resumed the consideration of the resolutions which were under discussion in the morning, and the question was put, That the house adjourn? Determined in the negative, yeas 28, nays 35.

The question was then put, That the house assent to the second resolution? Resolved in the affirmative, yeas 39, nays 28.

The last resolution being read was assented to. On motion of Mr. Brent, the question was put, That the house assent to the whole of the resolutions? Resolved in the affirmative, yeas 37, nays 5.

At twelve o'clock the house adjourned.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, NOV. 27, 1809.

AT twelve o'clock this day the speaker took the chair.

On calling over the names of the members, it appeared that there were present about ninety-five; which being a quorum, the house proceeded to business.

On motion of Mr. Dawson, a message was sent to the senate to inform that body that this house was formed and ready to proceed to business.

On motion of Mr. Dawson, a committee was appointed, to join such committee as should be appointed for the purpose, to wait on the president of the U. S. and inform him that a quorum of the two houses is formed and ready to receive any communications he may have to make. Messrs. Goodwin and Root were named a committee on the part of this house.

TUESDAY, NOV. 28, 1809.

A Message was received from the senate, by Mr. Otis, their secretary, informing the house that that body had formed a quorum, and was ready to proceed to business; and also that they had appointed a committee jointly with such committee as should have been appointed by the house, to wait on the president of the United States, and inform him that they were ready to receive such communications as he might have to make.

Mr. Goodwin, from the committee appointed to wait on the president of the U. States, reported that they had performed the duty assigned to them; and that the president had returned for answer that he would make a communication in writing to-morrow morning at 12 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 29, 1809.

AFTER the presentation and reference of a few petitions a message was received from the President of the U. S. by Mr. Graham, as given in this paper.

The message and documents accompanying the same were immediately read, referred to a committee of the whole house on the state of the Union, and 5000 copies ordered to be printed for the use of the house.

MESSAGE.

Fellow-citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives:

AT the period of our last meeting, I had the satisfaction of communicating an adjustment with one of the principal belligerent nations, highly important in itself, and still more so as prefiging a more extended accommodation. It is with deep concern I am now to inform you, that the favourable prospect has been overclouded, by a refusal of the British government to abide by the act of its minister plenipotentiary, and by its ensuing policy towards the United States, as seen through the communications of the minister sent to replace him.

Whatever pleas may be urged for a disavowal of engagements formed by diplomatic functionaries, in cases where by the terms of the engagements a mutual ratification is reserved; or where notice at the time may have been given, of a departure from instructions; or in extraordinary cases, essentially violating the principles of equity; a disavowal could not have been apprehended in a case, where no such notice or violation existed; where no such ratification was reserved; and more especially, where, as is now in proof, an engagement, to be executed without any such ratification, was contemplated by the instructions given, and where it had, with good faith, been carried into immediate execution, on the part of the United States.

These considerations not having restrained the British government from disavowing the arrangement, by virtue of which its orders in council were to be revoked, and the event authorizing the renewal of commercial intercourse, having thus not taken place; it necessarily became a question of equal urgency & importance, whether the act prohibiting that intercourse was not to be considered as remaining in legal force. This question being, after due deliberation, determined in the affirmative, a proclamation to that effect was issued. It could not but happen, however, that a return to this state of things, from that which had followed an execution of the arrangement by the United States, would involve difficulties. With a view to diminish these as much as possible, the instructions from the secretary of the treasury, now laid before you, were transmitted to the collectors of the several ports. If in permitting British vessels to depart,

without giving bonds not to proceed to our own ports, it should appear that the same legal authority has not been strictly pursued, it is to be ascribed to the anxious desire which was felt, that no individuals should be injured by so unforeseen an occurrence: And I am confident that the interests of our own citizens, for the ever further provisions may be found necessary for a general remission of penalties irregularly incurred.

The recall of the disavowed minister has been followed by the appointment of a successor, hopes were indulged that the new minister would contribute to alleviate the disappointment which had been produced, and remove the causes which had so long embarrassed the good understanding of the two nations. It could not be doubted, that at least be charged with conciliatory explanations of the step which had been taken, and with proposals to be substituted for the rejected arrangement. Reasonable and universal as this expectation was, it also has not been fulfilled. From the first official disavowal of the new minister, it was found that he received no authority to enter into explanations relative to either branch of the arrangement disavowed; nor any authority to substitute proposals, as to that branch, which concerned the British orders in council: And finally, that his proposals with respect to the other branch, the attack on the frigate Chesapeake, were founded on a presumption repeatedly declared to be inadmissible by the United States, that the first step towards adjustment was due from them; the proposition at the same time, omitting even a reference to the officer answerable for the murderous aggression, and asserting a claim not less contrary to the British laws, and British practice, than to the principles and obligations of the U. States.

The correspondence between the departments of state and this minister will shew, how essentially the features presented in its commencement have been varied in its progress. It will shew also, that forgetting the respect due to all governments, he did not refrain from imputations on this, which require that no further communications should be received from him. The necessity of this step will be made known to his Britannic majesty through the minister plenipotentiary of the United States in London. And it would indicate a want of confidence due to a government which so well understands and each what becomes foreign ministers near it, as to infer that the misconduct of its own representatives will be viewed in the same light in which it has been regarded here. The British government will learn, at the same time, that a ready attention will be given to communications, through any channel which may be substituted. It will be happy, if the change in this respect should be accompanied by a favourable revision of the unfriendly policy which has been so long pursued towards the U. States.

With France, the other belligerent, whose trespasses on our commercial rights have long been the subject of our just remonstrances, the posture of our relations does not correspond with the measures, taken on the part of the United States, to effect a favourable change. The result of the several communications made to her government, in pursuance of the authorities vested by congress in the executive is contained in the correspondence of our minister at Paris, now laid before you.

By some of the other belligerents, although professing just and amicable dispositions, injuries materially affecting our commerce have not been duly controlled or repressed. In these cases, the interpositions deemed proper on our part have not been omitted. But it will deserve the consideration of the legislature, now far both the safety and the honour of the American flag may be consulted, by adequate provisions against that collusive prostitution of it, by individuals, unworthy of the American name, which has so much favoured the real or pretended suspicions, under which the honest commerce of their fellow-citizens has suffered.

In relation to the powers on the coast of Barbary, nothing has occurred which is not of a nature rather to inspire confidence than distrust as to the continuance of the existing amity. With our Indian neighbours, the just and benevolent system, continued toward them, has also preserved peace, and is more and more advancing habits favourable to their civilization and happiness.

From a statement which will be made by the secretary of war, it will be seen that the fortifications on our maritime frontier are in many of the ports completed; affording the defence which was contemplated, and that a further time will be required to render complete the works in the harbour of New-York, and in some other places. By the enlargement of the works, and the employment of a greater number of hands at the public armories, the supply of small arms, of an improving quality, appears to be annually increasing, at a rate, that with those made on private contracts, may be expected to go far towards providing for the public exigency.

The act of congress providing for the equipment of our vessels of war, having been fully carried into execution, I refer to the